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UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 000845

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REMOVAL OF ECUADOREAN PRESIDENT,
APRIL 21, 2005

¶1. On 4/21, the Tegucigalpa-based liberal daily "La Tribuna" published an editorial entitled "The Bed:"

"There are no more 'coup d'etats' in Latin America. Popular discontent begins with protests and demonstrations, a political crisis is produced, the country becomes ungovernable, and from that point it is only matter of finding the best way out.

They force the president to resign, sending a military delegation or a delegation of important people to convince him of the inevitable, and the Congress calls for an emergency meeting to swear in the next in line.

The OAS meets urgently to issue an announcement that calls for a peaceful and constitutional solution.

It happened again in Ecuador. This time it was Lucio Gutierrez's turn. It so happens that in his 26 months of governance, he gave sufficient reasons to motivate the uprising revolt. In order to remove Gutierrez, the people initiated the removal of the president of Congress in order to make possible the legislative decision. Afterwards Gutierrez had no choice but to look for a country to give him political asylum. But sometimes we wonder why Honduras has three vice presidents instead of only one? Because, the vice president only serves for making the bed of the president."

Pierce